GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1859
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2000
AMENDMENT IN PREVENTION OF FOOD ADULTERATION ACT
NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Processing Industries have represented for amendment in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SH SHANMUGAM)
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggested amendments include the following:

1. Change in the title of the Act;

2. Amendments of certain definitions given in the Act;

3. Making provisions for giving a counterpart of the sample to the vendor;

4. Rationalization of penal provisions commensurate with the gravity of the offence etc.,

(c)&(d) A Departmental group of officers drawn from concerned Ministries/Departments and some of the State Governments has been set up to review the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954.The first meeting of the Group was held on 1-2nd March, 2000 in which the various stakeholders and interest groups presented their views/suggestions on amendment of certain specific provisions of the PFA law as it exists today. Since amendment of a statute involves inter-ministerial consultations and various procedural formalities, a firm deadline in this regard cannot be stipulated.